Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 06063 171047Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SAM-01 /097 W

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R 151225Z DEC 75 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7209 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS USMISSION EC BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY MADRID

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 6063

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP BE MO
SUBJECT: TRANSFER TO BRUSSELS OF SPANISH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR
PABLO DE BENAVIDES Y SALAS

- 1. PABLO BENEVIDES HAS BEEN AN EFFECTIVE PROMOTER OF SPANISH ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN RABAT. HE ALSO PLAYED A USEFUL, IF SECONDARY, ROLE IN THE SETTLEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF THE GOM/GOS SAHARA AGREEMENT, HAVING MADE SEVERAL TRIPS TO MADRID IN SUPPORT OF THE SPANISH NEGOTIATING TEA. HIS TRANSFER TO BRUSSELS, AFTER LESS THAN TWENTY-TWO MONTHS IN RABAT, STEMS FROM THE EFFECTIVE JOB HE HAS DONE HERE AND THE NEED FOR HIS SERVICES IN BRUSSELS.
- 2. BENEVIDES IS A SOLIDLY BUILT, SQUARE-FACED SPANIARD, ABOUT 5'9" IN HEIGHTH, WITH WAVY DARK HAIR. HE IS ABOUT 36 YEARS OLD AND HAS AT TIMES WORN A BEARD WHILE IN RABAT. HE IS A FAIR TO GOOD ECONOMIST (HE IS CAREER FOREIGN SERVICE) AND A GOOD BUREAUCRAT. HE HAS A MODISLY DRESSED WIFE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 RABAT 06063 171047Z

CONSIDERABLE CHARM AND ELEGANCE WHO HAS CLEARLY BEEN NO

HINDRANCE TO HIS CAREER ON THE REPRESENTATIONAL SIDE.

3. USEC WILL FIND BENEVIDES AN APPROACHABLE AND WORTHWHILE CONTACT ON SPANISH-EC ISSUES. HE SPEAKS VERY GOOD ENGLISH AS WELL AS FRENCH. HE IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH SPAIN/EC AFFAIRS HAVING WORKED AS AN ASSISTANT TO FORMER SPANISH ECONIMIC MINISTER LUIS CERON (SPAIN'S "MR. COMMON MARKET") AT THE TIME CERON WAS CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN MADRID (WHICH IS WHERE THE REPORTING OFFICER FIRST MADE HIS ACQUAINTANCE). BENEVIDES EXPECTS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MAJOR PUSH FOR SPANISH ACCESSION TO THE BRUSSELS TREATY, BUT EXPECTS NO EARLY MIRACLES. COON

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Subject: TRANSFER TO BRUSSELS OF SPANISH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR PABLO DE BENAVIDES Y SALAS

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